--40. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 39, wherein said other data are data corresponding to a lyric of said audio signal data.

--41. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 39, wherein said other data are data corresponding to an image relevant to said audio signal data.

--42. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 30, wherein said first and said second data are data corresponding to multi-channel audio data.

--43. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 42, wherein one of said first and said second data are data corresponding to front channel audio signals, and an other of said first and said second data are data corresponding to rear channel audio signals.--

REMARKS

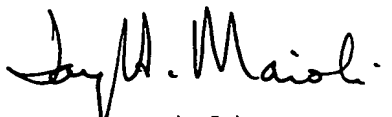
Claims 1-43 remain in the application and have been amended hereby.

As will be noted from the Declaration, Applicants are citizens and residents of Japan and this application originated there.

Accordingly, the amendments to the specification are made to place the application in idiomatic English, and the claims are amended to place them in better condition for examination.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
COOPER & DUNHAM, LLP



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been amended as follows:

--An optical recording medium having plural recording layers [which are layered together. The optical recording medium] includes [at least] a first recording layer on which first data is to be recorded and a second recording layer on which second data is to be recorded. The first and second recording layers are layered [together], with the second data being recorded at a location in the second recording layer in the vicinity of a location in the first recording layer where the first data relevant to the second data is recorded. Replay signals of variable configurations can be obtained by suitably synthesizing data read out from the respective recording layers.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-43 have been amended as follows:

--1. (Amended) An optical recording medium [having at least] comprising a first recording layer for recording first data and a second recording layer for recording second data relevant to said first data, wherein

said first and said second recording layers are [layered together] positioned adjacent to one another, said second data

being recorded [in] at a location in said second recording layer in proximity to a location in said first recording layer where [the] first data relevant to said second recording layer is recorded.

--2. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said second data is recorded within a range accessible [on] by shifting an objective lens of readout means[,] adapted for reading [out] one of said first [or] and said second data of said first and said second recording layers [of said recording medium], from [the] a location of said first recording layer [having recorded therein the] where said first data relevant to said second data is recorded.

--3. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 1 [wherein] , further comprising an intermediate layer [is further] provided between said first and said second recording layers.

--4. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 3, wherein said intermediate layer has a thickness sufficient to optically separate said first and said second recording layers [from each other].

--5. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 4 [also having] , further comprising a first substrate carrying said first recording layer and a second substrate

carrying said second recording layer, said first and said second substrates being bonded [to each other so] such that said first recording layer [will face the] faces said second recording layer with said intermediate layer [in-between] located between said first recording layer and said second recording layer.

--6. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 5, wherein said intermediate layer is formed of a light-transmitting adhesive.

--7. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 4 [wherein there is further provided], further comprising a substrate [having on its one surface] carrying one of said first and said second recording layers on a single surface.

--8. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 1 [wherein there are further provided], further providing a first substrate carrying said first recording layer and a second substrate carrying said second recording layer, wherein said second substrate [being] is bonded [on] to said first recording layer.

--9. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim [4] 8, wherein said first and said second substrates are bonded together by a light-transmitting adhesive.

--10. (Amended) An optical recording medium [having at least] comprising a first recording layer for recording first data and a second recording layer for recording second data [making up] forming a [sole] single recording data unit along with said first data, wherein

said first and said second recording layers are [layered together] positioned adjacent to one another, said second data [being] recorded [in] at a location in said second recording layer in proximity to a location in said first recording layer where [the] first data relevant to said second recording layer is recorded.

--11. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 10, wherein said second data is recorded within a range accessible from an objective lens utilized as readout means for reading [out] one of said first [or] and said second data of said first and said second recording layers [of said recording medium,] by shifting said objective lens from [the] said location of said first recording layer [having recorded therein the] where said first data relevant to said second data is recorded.

--12. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 10 [wherein], further comprising an intermediate layer [is further] provided between said first and said second recording layers.

--13. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 12, wherein said intermediate layer has a thickness sufficient to optically separate said first and said second recording layers [from each other].

--14. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 13 [also having], further comprising a first substrate carrying said first recording layer and a second substrate carrying said second recording layer, said first and said second substrates being bonded [to each other so] such that said first recording layer [will face the] faces said second recording layer with said intermediate layer [in-between] located between said first recording layer and said second recording layer.

--15. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 14, wherein said intermediate layer is formed of a light-transmitting adhesive.

--16. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 13 [wherein the optical recording medium is further provided with], further comprising a substrate [having on its one surface] carrying one of said first and second recording layers on a single surface.

--17. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 10 [wherein the optical recording medium is further

provided with], further comprising a first substrate carrying said first recording layer and a second substrate carrying said second recording layer, wherein said second substrate [being] is bonded [on] to said first recording layer.

--18. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 17, wherein said first and said second substrates are bonded together by a light-transmitting adhesive.

--19. (Amended) A reproducing apparatus for an optical recording medium having [at least] a first recording layer for recording [said] first data and a second recording layer for recording [said] second data, wherein said first and said second recording layers [being layered together,] are positioned adjacent to one another and said second data [being] is recorded [in] at a location in said second recording layer in proximity to a location in said first recording layer where [the] first data relevant to said second recording layer is recorded[;], said reproducing apparatus comprising:

readout means for reading [out] said first data and second data relevant to said first data from [an] said optical recording medium;

reproducing means for generating replay signals based on said first and said second data [rad out] read from said readout means; and

control means for controlling said readout means and said

reproducing means.

--20. (Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said readout means includes an objective lens for reading one of said first and said second data and [wherein] said second data is recorded in a range accessible by said objective lens [of readout means for reading out said first or second data of said first and second recording layers of said recording medium,] by shifting said objective lens from [the] a location of said first recording layer [having recorded therein the] where said first data relevant to said second data is recorded.

--21. (Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said control means [manages control] controls to alternately read [out] said first data recorded in said first recording layer [of said optical recording medium] and said second data recorded in said second recording layer [thereof].

--22. (Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said control means [manages control] controls to synthesize said first and said second data read [out] from said readout means to output said replay signals.

--23. (Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said reproducing means includes comprises: a

first buffer memory for holding said first data read [out] and reproduced from said first recording layer by said readout means[,]; a second buffer memory for holding said second data read [out] and reproduced from said second recording layer by said readout means; and [a] synthesis means for synthesizing [the] said first data read [out] from said first buffer memory [to the] and said second data read [out] from said second buffer memory.

--24. (Amended) A reproducing apparatus for an optical recording medium having [at least] a first recording layer for recording [said] first data and a second recording layer for recording [said] second data constituting a [sole] single recording data unit [along with said first data], said first and said second recording layers being mounted [in a layered fashion,] adjacent to one another and said second data being recorded [in] at a location in said second recording layer in proximity to a location in said first recording layer where [the] first data relevant to said second recording layer is recorded, said reproducing apparatus comprising:

readout means for reading [out] said first data and said second data from [an] said optical recording medium;

reproducing means for generating replay signals based on [at least one of] said first and said second data [rad out] read from said readout means; and

control means for controlling said readout means and said reproducing means.

--25. (Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said readout means includes an objective lens and [wherein] said second data is recorded in a range accessible by said objective lens by shifting [the] said objective lens from [the] said location of said first recording layer [having recorded therein the] where said first data relevant to said second data is recorded.

--26. (Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said control means controls said reproducing means [such as] to synthesize said first and said second data read [out] by said [read-out] readout means to output said replay signals.

--27. (Amended) The reproducing apparatus according to claim 24, wherein said readout means [includes] comprises: a first buffer memory for holding said first data read [out] by said readout means from said first recording layer and reproduced[,]; a second buffer memory for holding said second data read [out] by said readout means from said second recording layer and reproduced[,]; and a synthesis unit for synthesizing said first data read [out] from said first buffer memory [to] and said second data read [out] from said second buffer memory.

--28. (Amended) A method for reproducing an optical recording medium including [at least] a first recording layer

for recording first data and a second recording layer for recording second data, said first and said second recording layers being [layered together,] positioned adjacent to one another and said second data being recorded [in] at a location in said second recording layer in proximity to a location in said first recording layer where [the] first data relevant to said second recording layer is recorded[;], said method comprising the steps of:

reading [out] said first and said second data from said optical recording medium; and

generating replay signals based on said first and said second data read [out] from said readout means.

--29. (Amended) A method for reproducing an optical recording medium having [at least] a first recording layer for recording [said] first data and a second recording layer for recording [said] second data constituting a [sole] simple recording data unit [along with said first data], said first and said second recording layers being [layered together,] positioned adjacent to one another and said second data being recorded [in] at a location in said second recording layer in proximity to a location in said first recording layer where [the] first data relevant to said second recording layer is recorded, said reproducing method comprising the steps of:

reading [out] said first data and said second data from [an] said optical recording medium; and

generating replay signals based on [at least] one of said

first data and said second data read [out] from said readout means.

--30. (Amended) An optical recording medium [at least having] comprising a first recording layer for recording first data and a second recording layer arranged parallel to said first recording layer for recording second data[;],

wherein

said first and said second data are data relevant to each other, one of said first and second data being meaningful data when reproduced alone, [the] and an other of said first and second data being data relevant to said [one] data reproduced alone; and

said first and said second data being [respectively] recorded at locations in said first and said second recording layers in proximity to [each other] one another.

--31. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 30, wherein an intermediate layer is [further] provided between said first and said second recording layers.

--32. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 31, wherein said intermediate layer has a thickness sufficient to optically separate said first and said second recording layers [from each other].

--33. (Amended) The optical recording medium according

to claim 32 [also having], further comprising a first substrate carrying said first recording layer and a second substrate carrying said second recording layer, said first and said second substrates being bonded [to each other so] such that said first recording layer [will face the] faces said second recording layer with said intermediate layer [in-between] located between said first recording layer and said second recording layer.

--34. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 33, wherein said intermediate layer is formed of a light-transmitting adhesive.

--35. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 32 [wherein the optical recording medium is further provided with], further comprising a substrate [having on its one surface] carrying one of said first and said second recording layers on a single surface.

--36. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 30 [wherein the optical recording medium is further provided with], further comprising a first substrate carrying said first recording layer and a second substrate carrying said second recording layer, wherein said second substrate [being] is bonded to said first recording layer.

--37. (Amended) The optical recording medium according

to claim 36, wherein said first and said second substrates are bonded together by a light-transmitting adhesive.

--38. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 30, wherein [at least] one of said first and said second data [is] are data corresponding to audio signals.

--39. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 38, wherein [the] an other of said first and said second data [is] are data corresponding to [the] visual information relevant to said [one] audio signal data.

--40. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 39, wherein said other data [is] are data corresponding to [the] a lyric of said [one] audio signal data.

--41. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 39, wherein said other data [is] are data corresponding to an image relevant to said [one] audio signal data.

--42. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to claim 30, wherein said first and said second data are data corresponding to multi-channel audio data.

--43. (Amended) The optical recording medium according to

claim 42, wherein one of said first and said second data [is] are data corresponding to front channel audio signals, [the] and an other of said first and said second data [being] are data corresponding to rear channel audio signals.--